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BOOK REVIEWS.

The Encyclopedia of United States Supreme Court Reports, being a Complete Encyclopedia of all the Case Law of the Federal Supreme Court up to and including Volume 206, U. S. Supreme Court Reports (Book 51, Lawyers' Edition). Under the editorial supervision of Thomas Johnson Michie. Volume 10. The Michie Company, Law Publishers, Charlottesville, Va. 1910. Price, \$6.00

The present volume treats of "Public Lands" to "Special Appearances," inclusive. The important subjects of "Public Lands" and "Railroads" are written by Mr. R. C. Walker; "Receivers" and "Sentence and Punishment," by Homer Richey; "Res Adjudicata," by S. Blair Fisher; "Revenue Laws," by our associate, Frank Moore; "Sales," by Joseph W. Timberlake; "Removal of Causes," by Beirne Stedman; "Ships and Shipping," by A. P. Walker. But the length of these articles and ability of the writers do not overshadow the excellency of the briefer articles, which are from the pens of some of the ablest of the staff and all thoroughly and carefully edited. Each volume as it appears testifies to the painstaking care which makes this one of the best Digests which has ever appeared.

A Study of Questioned Documents, with an Outline of Methods by Which the Facts may be Discovered and Shown. By Albert S. Osborn, Examiner of Questioned Documents; with an Introduction by Professor John H. Wigmore, Author of "Wigmore on Evidence." Two Hundred Illustrations. Rochester, New York. The Lawyers Co-Operative Publishing Company. 1910. Price, \$5.25.

To those lawyers—and we suppose their name is legion—who have read with interest and with some degree of amazement the reports of trials in which the testimony of experts upon handwriting was given, both pro and con, signatures and documents, this book will prove of absorbing interest. It is the first treatise upon this subject, and is marked by candid reasoning and a judicial attitude which make the book of exceeding value. No one who has not read it can appreciate the science, the care and the skill which must be necessary to make one an expert in handwriting; for expert testimony in this respect is in truth a science, and we believe that a careful perusal of this book, both by judges and lawyers, will do much to remove prejudice, to arouse interest, and to enable the cross-examiner to test the ability and skill of the handwriting expert, expose empiricism and discover the truth.

Race Distinctions in American Law, by Gilbert Thomas Stephenson, A. M., L. L. B. New York and London. D. Appleton & Co. 1910. Price, \$1.50.

This book, made up of essays published in the **American Law Review**, and one chapter previously published in the **American Political Science Review** during the past year, is a most valuable contribution to the vexing and perplexing question of the proper and permanent relations between the white and colored races. No student of this great question can afford to be without this book. With a calm and judicial mind the author has taken the constitution, statutes and ju-

dicial decisions of the United States and the States and Territories between 1865 and the present, to find the laws that make or forbid distinctions between persons on the basis of race. The author has not confined his study to the Southern States, but has included the whole United States and all the races. He has not been satisfied merely with legal distinctions and legal restrictions, but he has carried his inquiry into the schools and court rooms, the churches and the public service corporations of the country. He has not attempted to argue, but in the language of Mr. Whistler he has simply "told" us, and the telling has been not only in an entertaining, but in a clear, original and forceful way. We have noticed, however, one error in the book, which has probably been caused by a careless reading of our constitution. The author on page 307 states that "In Virginia and South Carolina one could register under the 'Grandfather Clause' if he could understand and explain the constitution when read to him." In this the author has fallen into error. Any person prior to 1904 was allowed to register under what is known as the "Grandfather Clause," who "prior to the adoption of the constitution served in time of war in the army or navy of the United States, of the Confederate States, or of any State of the United States or the Confederate States, or a son of such person." See Section 19 of Article 2, Constitution of 1902.

Clause 4 allows a person to register who is able to read any section of the Constitution submitted to him by the officers of registration and to give a reasonable explanation of the same, but Clause 4 has no connection whatever with Clauses 1 and 2, the so-called "Grandfather Clauses."

The Sovereignty of the States. An oration. Address to the survivors of the Eighth Virginia Regiment, while they were gathered about the graves of their fallen comrades on the battle ground of Manassas, July 21st, 1910. By Walter Neale. New York and Washington. The Neale Publishing Company. 1910.

"Only the extremists tell the truth," the ironic Frenchman said: "Only the extremists call attention to the whole truth," might be substituted for the saying. For the extremist is not afraid. He puts his facts out boldly and lets them draw their own conclusions without glossing or explaining away anything. He doesn't etch; he photographs, and leaves the negative untouched. While many people will not agree with Mr. Neale in his treatment of our first "Rebellion" headed by George Washington, his facts cannot be disputed. And his masterly treatment of the history of the organization of our Federal government puts in crisp, clear, condensed shape facts which every school boy and girl in this country ought to know.

And equally as clear is the statement of the deliberate violation of our Federal compact by the non-slave-holding States, and the long-suffering endurance of the Southern States. There is little eloquence in this oration, and none was intended. But it is the indignant outburst of a man who has studied his history and is not afraid to say what that history reveals, and who has said it well. It may not be temperate but it is true, and though in many ways extreme and perhaps not always exactly just in drawing conclusions, it is worthy of preservation in enduring shape and should be read by every one who wishes to know the truth.